

Asha Austin Meeting Minutes - 30th July 2017

Agenda

1. Overall project funding mechanics review - Ranga (30 min)
2. KWS - Budget and proposal for 2017-18 - Ranga (1 hr 30 min)
3. Siddamma site visit update - Sowmya (30 min)

Attendees

- Rangakrishnan Srinivasan
- Mohit Sood
- Sowmya Suryanarayanan
- Arun Krishnaswamy

Project funding overview (Ranga)

- Proposal to ramp down project funding by 33% each year, starting years 4/5/6
 - Initial chapter vision was to fund projects for 3 years only - with 2nd year at peak funding year
 - GSK and Mathru are in their 3rd year already and there is plan to continue with weaning model for another 2-3 years
 - More probable scenario is to look at funding for 3+3 years, with peak around 3rd year, and 33% wean off each subsequent year
 - Max increase in budget at 25% from 2nd to 3rd year
 - This is for chapter level commitment, and if we were to have a parallel SAC/SAT structure in place by the entire 3 year wean period, we can continue with the project focus
 - Chapter will be responsible for due diligence and follow up of project as our commitment towards our SAC/SAT sponsors
 - First project as trial for this will be GSK for next year
 - Every year, we need to put up WAH project. This year will be Mathru. Aravind Rao has volunteered to work with WAH team this year.
- New projects will be picked after soliciting proposals through a contest to coincide with SoH season (for runners to get more involved with projects)
- **KWS - budget and proposal / 2017-18 (Ranga)**
- From KWS newsletter:
 - participation in state level volleyball training and competition by Special Olympics Bharat (Jan 2017)
 - Valentine's day and Holi celebrations (Feb / March 2017)
 - Annual day celebration
 - Participation in painting and arts competitions (Feb / March / April 2017)
 - Corporate visitors - Infosys, Fluor, Give India, Fidelity Team
 - proposal for audiometry room has been submitted to Fidelity
 - Visits by BASAID / Rosalia sponsor (Dr Khanna)
 - Core group meeting (Feb 2017)
- Funds utilization
 - INR 6.8 lakhs first Asha disbursement, spent on staff salaries (total, INR 8.7 lakhs) between Apr-Nov 2016
 - Psychologist / yoga teacher left
 - INR 3.4 lakhs second Asha disbursement, spent on staff salaries (total, INR 4.14 lakhs) between Dec 2016 - Mar 2017
- Rakeshji with assistance of a junior individual took over resource mobilization late last year
 - Started SAC model with a wide range of possible donations for cover child's education, transportation etc
 - Fewer % towards admin salaries
 - Asha funds being used for staff salaries for the teachers hired under the new initiatives category
 - KWS' fund raising model is pivoting substantially to SAC
 - Higher salaries proposed for audiometry lab staff (to be hired) - ~ INR 40-50k
 - Rakeshji to continue in resource mobilization role, unless a well-qualified candidate can be hired in
- Salary bill increasing from ~ INR 78 lakhs to ~ INR 104 lakhs for 2018 (mostly due to audiometry lab staff hires, and salary raises (~20%), with reduction in admin salaries)
 - Asha Austin supported to the tune of INR 10.2 lakhs in 2016-17
 - KWS is requesting support for the same line items as before
 - Ranga proposes a 10% increase for 2017-18
 - Mohit would prefer to fund 100% of specific line items for better tracking and accountability
 - Looking back at previous KWS funding vote and options, the funding for specifically was for six staff personnel - speech therapist, computer teacher, music teacher, dance teacher, yoga teacher and pottery teacher - 6/9 positions of the new initiatives - with budget of 10.2 lacs.
 - Due to yoga teacher not filled in for 8 months, fewer number of sessions for some of the classes, late start of speech therapist (new hire), etc. KWS had used Asha Austin funding amount to fund salaries of the remaining 3/9 positions of the new initiatives - specifically occupational therapist, physiotherapist, psychologist (not a position now, merged with Audiometry lab)
 - What was communicated to KWS was us funding new initiatives teachers without explicit mention of the line-items of 6/9 positions
 - This reallocation was mentioned in their first disbursement utilization report and KWS had requested approval from Asha-Austin

- Fund reallocation retroactively approved via unanimous voice vote to support the use of Asha-Austin funding for the remaining 3/9 positions (Sowmya, Mohit, Ranga, Arun - all for)
- KWS acknowledged the support from Asha-Austin towards their new initiatives - salaries for music, dance, computer, yoga teachers and therapeutic services
- Significant improvement in fundraising in 2016
 - INR 94 lacs from institutional donations, same number was 22 lacs in 2015
 - INR 30 lacs from individual donations, same number was 14 lacs in 2015
 - Most institutional or individual donations are for one year, with some continuing at same level or lesser for subsequent years
 - INR 4 lakhs from marathon, reduced from 13 lacs, and not likely this year
 - 172 donors, distributed model with 4-5 big donors
 - Ranga showed the list of donors, donation amounts and time of donation (most have come from Nov 2016 - March 2017 time frame)
 - Rakeshji mentioned each years fundraising is different - some good years and some bad years
- AI- Ranga to follow up on non-overlap of funding for SAC vs. Asha-Austin funding
- AI- Ranga to follow up on second part of update with more activities of KWS along with voting for budget line-items

Siddamma site visit update

- August 25-27 - fellowship site visit scheduled (by volunteer from Bangalore, Anjana)
- Separate Cuddalore flood project site visit scheduled for next week by one of Savi's employees
 - Sowmya to receive photos from visit